ZDARSKY | CHECCHETTO | MENYZ

A MARVEL EVENT

DEVIL'S REIGN

4 OF 6

Years ago, teenager **MATT MURDOCK** was blinded after being exposed to radioactive waste. He lost his sight, but his remaining senses began to function with superhuman acuity and gifted him with an ability similar to echolocation. Dubbed his 'radar sense,' it grants him a unique perspective on the world as he tries to better it as the costumed vigilante called **DAREDEVIL**. Recently, the former assassin **ELEKTRA** has also taken on the Daredevil mantle.

WILSON FISK, the former Kingpin of Crime and current Mayor of New York, has made his move against his two oldest enemies and their allies by outlawing super hero vigilantism within the city limits. Fisk's deputized a new team of super-villainous Thunderbolts to maintain law and order alongside the NYPD.

Desperate and lying low, the **AVENGERS** are planning to run their own mayoral candidate against Fisk in the next election: **LUKE CAGE**! But they've learned that Fisk is using the powers of the **PURPLE MAN** to manipulate the city. Their attempt to bring Fisk in was foiled when Fisk's ally, **OTTO OCTAVIUS**, made his own move against the mayor—with the help from extradimensional Ottos: the superior **HULK**, **WOLVERINE** and **GHOST RIDER**!

Now the Avengers are scattered and beaten, and **FOGGY NELSON**'s just received a beating of his own courtesy of the Mayor's thugs.

DEVIL'S REIGN

PART 4

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TWO WEEKS LATER.

Maybe we went too far.

Tattoo & Piercing

Forgot that our actions have ramifications...

POLICE

...on the people we *save.*

We turn our noses up at the *laws* to do it.

Now we're *all* being punished for that...

...and the *city* is under siege as a result.

The *laws* are for all. The consequences for *all.*

Two weeks ago, in the middle of ***Fisk's war*** against us, he unleashed his "anti-crime" drones.

Impenetrable, un-hackable, otherworldly.

They fly through the city with their damn ***eyes--thousands*** of them--

--hunting anyone who dares ignore ***Fisk's zero tolerance*** policies.

The ***heroes*** are underground. The ***people*** cower.

No freedom? No crimes.

The city is ***afraid.***

But you forgot, Fisk.

You forgot who I ***am.***

I'm the ***man without fear.***

IT'S ELECTION SEASON...

...SHOULDN'T YOU BE OUT *CAMPAIGNING?*

OH, RIGHT. *WHY* WOULD YOU NEED TO DO *THAT?*

THE CITY IS *CRIME FREE.*

AND YOU'RE USING THE *PURPLE MAN'S POWERS OF PERSUASION* ON IT.

OTTO? CARE FOR A *SCOTCH?*

HN. I ONLY CARE FOR FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD SINGLE MALT.

OH, I KNOW. I WOULDN'T SUBJECT US TO ANYTHING ELSE.

EXCELLENT.

I ALMOST *ADMIRE* YOUR *SWING, OCTAVIUS.* BUT IT'S A SWING THAT YOU FAILED TO *LAND.*

IF YOU WERE GOING TO *COME* FOR ME...

...WHY NOT COME FOR THE *CROWN?*

YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN OBSESSED WITH *POWER*, WILSON.

I'M *HAPPY* TO HAVE YOU SIT IN A *USELESS SEAT*, TO SHAKE HANDS AND KISS BABIES.

BUT I...

...I MAKE THE WORLD *BETTER*. *SAFER*.

AND I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT *WITHOUT* YOU.

RICHARDS' LAB YIELDED *MARVELOUS THINGS*.

A MULTIVERSE OF HELP--OF INVENTIONS THAT MADE MY *OCTOBOTS POSSIBLE*.

-SNIFF-

MRS. FISK IS COMING. I CAN SMELL HER *PERFUME*.

CHEAP. LOW *CLASS*.

WELL THEN, WE SHOULD *GO*...

...SHE'S THE *VIOLENT* TYPE AND WE DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO *KILL* HER.

AND I ALMOST FORGOT WHY I CAME. I WANTED TO DELIVER THE NEWS IN PERSON, WILSON.

CRIME IS *DOWN*, WHICH MEANS...

...WE'VE ARRESTED YOUR *CRIMINAL SON*.

FOGGY...

...YOU STILL AWAKE?

YOU KNOW I AM, MATT.

YOUR BODY ***SOUNDS*** FINE. BREATHING IS NORMAL AGAIN...

IT'S... IT'S ***NOT*** OKAY.

THIS IS ***MY*** FAULT, FOGGY. IF I HADN'T POKED FISK...OR IF I HAD JUST TAKEN HIM DOWN ***YEARS*** AGO--

MATT...

...SHUT UP. JUST SHUT ***UP.*** MY ***GOD,*** DO YOU THINK YOU'RE SOMEHOW THE ONLY PERSON WITH ***FREE WILL?***

I ***CHOSE*** TO STAND AGAINST FISK. I PUT ***MYSELF*** IN HARM'S WAY. I CAN BE A HERO TOO, DAMMIT.

BUT YOUR DAMN ***CATHOLIC GUILT*** JUST HAS TO MAKE IT ABOUT ***YOU,*** THE ***BELEAGUERED HERO.*** WELL...

BUDDY... YOU'VE BEEN HERE EVERY DAY FOR TWO ***WEEKS.***

IT'S OKAY. I'M GONNA BE FINE.

...I ABSOLVE YOU, MY SON.

NOW PLEASE, JUST ***DROP*** IT.

I... FINE. I'M SORRY, FOGGY. I KNOW I CAN GET UP MY OWN--

WAIT.

SOMEONE'S COMING. SOMEONE...

WHAT ARE YOU *DOING* HERE, MIKE?

WHOA! CAN'T A GUY--YOU KNOW--PRETENDING TO BE HIS *BROTHER* VISIT HIS BROTHER'S *OLD FRIEND?*

DON'T.

I *KNOW* YOU'RE LYING.

LOOK, *MAYBE* I WAS HOPING...

...I'D RUN INTO *YOU.* MY PARTNER, *BUTCH,* HE'S--HE'S BEEN *ARRESTED.*

I WANT TO HELP YOU TAKE *FISK* DOWN, MAN. FOR *GOOD.*

I'M WORRIED THAT WHEN *BUTCH* GETS OUT HE'E GONNA... I DON'T KNOW. HE'S *CHANGED,* MAN. I WANT TO--

NO. YOU'RE A *GRIFTER!* YOU ALWAYS HAVE BEEN, YOU ALWAYS *WILL* BE!

THIS IS *SERIOUS!* PEOPLE'S *LIVES* ARE IN *DANGER!*

YOU ONLY EVER LOOK OUT FOR *YOURSELF,* SO WHATEVER YOUR *GAME* IS, I'M NOT *HAVING* IT.

MAN, #$@% YOU. YOU DON'T KNOW ME.

YOU'RE AS *SANCTIMONIOUS* AS MATT.

UH, HEY...

...EVERYTHING OKAY?

KIRSTEN... I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO--

IT'S OKAY. HOW'S FOGGY?

HE'S GOOD. GOOD. ALL THINGS CONSIDERED. I JUST...

EVERYTHING'S SPIRALED OUT OF ***CONTROL.*** MY FRIENDS ARE GETTING ***HURT,*** THE CITY IS...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO ***DO.*** HOW I CAN--

I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO--

YOU'RE LIKE A DAMN ***WOUNDED PUPPY,*** AND I JUST NEED YOU TO KNOW IT'LL ALL BE ***OKAY--***

BUT I NEED TO ***MAKE*** IT OKAY. AND I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DO THAT WITHOUT--

THEY CALL IT "THE SECOND DEATH." IN THE BIBLE.

WHEN THE MURDERERS END UP PAST THIS WORLD, IN THE LAKE THAT BURNS WITH FIRE AND SULFUR.

BLOOD IS ON MY HANDS. THE ***SECOND DEATH*** IS WAITING FOR ME, KIRSTEN. AND NOW I'M WORRIED, ***KNOWING*** THAT...

...THAT I MAY AS WELL JUST KILL WILSON FISK.

EXIT

BRING ME THE *CHILDREN.*

WESLEY WILL GIVE YOU *TRACKERS* TO HONE IN ON THEIR *PURPLE ENERGY SIGNATURES.*

YEAH, OF COURSE, BUT...

...WHAT DID THESE KIDS *DO?*

I'VE GOT *NO* PROBLEM UPHOLDING THE *LAW,* MAYOR FISK. I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT'S WHAT WE'RE *DOING* HERE.

YOU'LL DO AS I *SAY,* MR. WALKER.

OF COURSE, SIR...

YOU SHOULD JUST LET *ME* HANDLE THIS.

MARY, WE'VE BEEN *OVER* THIS...

I'M NOT YOUR *PORCELAIN DOLL* NOW THAT WE'RE MARRIED, *WILSON...*

I WANT TO *FIGHT.* TO *PROTECT* YOU.

AND YOU WILL, MY DEAR.

WE'LL FIGHT *TOGETHER.* EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM.

BDEEP

BDEEP

HM. I EXPECTED YOU TWO HOURS AND SEVENTEEN MINUTES AGO...

...CONSIDERING I DESIGNED THESE *POWER-DAMPENING COLLARS* FOR THE *SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT*...

...WITH *FAIL-SAFES* IN CASE WE--

REED...

...SHUT UP.

GLADLY. WHAT'S THE *PLAN*, MY LOVE?

THE LAW'S AN ASS.

TIME FOR A BREAKOUT.

YOU HEAR SOMETHING?

MAYBE?

OH #$@%...

...A BUNCH OF *CELLS* JUST O--

GK!

I'VE LOST MY QUIET *TOUCH* IN HERE.

IT'S OKAY, *MOON KNIGHT*...

...I'M SURE WE'LL HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO *SHARPEN* OUR SKILLS AGAIN.

TONY? YOU GOOD TO FIGHT?

STOP! HANDS WHERE WE CAN *SEE* THEM!

IT'D BE EASIER WITH *ARMOR*...

...BUT WHEN HAVE WE EVER DONE ANYTHING THE *EASY* WAY?

YOU'RE FREE TO GO.

HAPPY YOU CAME TO YOUR SENSES. I'M AN *INNOCENT BUSINESSMAN.*

OH, YOU'RE GUILTY AS #$@%, PHARRIS. BUT WE'RE *OVERLOADED* THANKS TO THE NEW *ANTI-CRIME DRONES,* PLUS...

...YOU'VE GOT FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES.

#$@% OFF, MR. *MAYOR.*

BUTCH, *LISTEN* TO ME. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO--

PARKING

DOESN'T HAVE TO *WHAT?* "BE THIS WAY"?

LOOK, LET'S PUT IT ALL IN THE *OPEN,* OKAY?

I'M YOUR *SON!* YOU THINK I'M *MAD* AT YOU, LIKE A *CHILD*, FOR "ABANDONING" ME.

BUT YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW ABOUT ME! AND FOR *GOOD REASON!*

MY MOM *KNEW* WHO YOU WERE!

AND THAT IF YOU WERE A PART OF MY LIFE, THAT LIFE WOULD BE *REAL* $%@#& *SHORT.*

FINE. SAY I TAKE YOU AT YOUR *WORD.*

WHY ARE YOU *SO ANGRY?* ALL I'M TRYING TO DO IS *HELP* YOU.

I'M NOT *ANGRY...*

...I'M SICKENED.

EVERYONE THINKS *YOU'RE* DOING THIS. THE *DRONES.* BUT I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO SEES HOW *WEAK* YOU REALLY ARE.

YOU'RE UNDER THE *FOOT* OF THAT *OCTOPUS* MAN.

I'M *ASHAMED* TO CALL YOU MY FATHER, TO BE CALLED "KINGPIN" AFTER YOU.

I CAN *MAKE YOU FALL IN LINE!* I CAN--

PTOO!

I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU TRY, "DAD."

IRONHEART! I'VE GOT-- NH!

RAHH! FOR THE LAST TIME--

--I AIN'T HERE TO FIGHT YOU!

SURE THING, "OFFICER RHINO"!

NH!

I PREDICT WE HAVE 49 SECONDS UNTIL *DRONES* PASS THROUGH HERE--

LET'S SHUT HIM DOWN *FAST* THEN, CHAMPIONS!

HRF!

DAMMIT--

MAYBE SOONER.

I'M ON YER SIDE!

NF! THEN-- THEN WHY THE BADGE?! WHY--?

ZZZWRRR

--OH MAN, WE DO NOT NEED--

--THIS--

PAP

AHH!

PUT THEM ON! QUICK!

NRAHHH!

FZSSS

WHAT... WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

THE DRONES KNOW NOT TO ATTACK ANYONE WITH A BADGE. IT'S, LIKE, WI-FI OR WHATEVER...

I TOLD YOU I WASN'T HERE TO FIGHT.

SO WHY ARE YOU HERE?

LOOK, KID, YOU KNOW ME. I AIN'T A BAD GUY. THIS WAS A GOOD-PAYING, LAWFUL GIG...

...BUT THE MAYOR, HE... HE WANTED ME TO GO AFTER SOME KIDS. NOT YOU GUYS, OTHER KIDS. KIDS WHO HADN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG.

AND THAT AIN'T ME. I JUST WANTED TO TELL SOMEONE, ONE 'A YOU HERO TYPES...

WAIT. WHAT KIDS?

ARE YOU SURE?

YEAH...

...I KNOW HE MIGHT NOT BE THE *BRIGHTEST* BULB...

...BUT I BELIEVE RHINO. THIS ISN'T A TRAP. FISK IS GOING AFTER *THE PURPLE MAN'S* CHILDREN AND APPARENTLY THEY'RE *IN TOWN.*

KIDNAP KIDS? TO WHAT *END?*

POWER. RIGHT NOW HE'S ONLY ABLE TO SUBTLY MANIPULATE THE POPULATION.

IF HE GETS THE *CHILDREN...*

...HE *WINS* THE ELECTION. AND THE MINDS OF A *CITY.*

I'M *SICK* OF THIS! THESE *MEN* CONTROLLING US! MAKING US HIDE LIKE *RATS!*

AND NOW THEY'RE AFTER *CHILDREN?!*

WHERE ARE YOUR *TEAMMATES?*

LYING LOW IN *BROOKLYN.* WHY?

BECAUSE THEY'RE *DRAFTED.*

WE'RE GOING TO FIND THOSE *KIDS.* AND IF *FISK* OR *OTTO* OR *ANYONE* GETS IN MY WAY--

"--I'M GOING TO *END* THEM."

WILSON?

I'M SORRY ABOUT BUTCH. I REALLY AM.

BUT HE'LL COME AROUND EVENTUALLY...

YOU'LL WIN THE ELECTION. EVERYTHING WILL BE *FINE.*

IT'S NOT THAT, MY LOVE. IT'S...

...WHY CAN'T I STOP? WHY HOLD ON TO THESE THINGS THAT CAUSE ME NOTHING BUT *PAIN?*

MY *HATRED.* MY *POSITION.* I'M SO *CONSUMED* BY *POWER* AND *REVENGE,* BUT...

...I HAVE *YOU.*

I THINK ABOUT OUR *FIERY* BEGINNINGS AND HOW IT GAVE WAY TO SOMETHING MORE *POWERFUL,* MORE *BEAUTIFUL.*

I THINK BACK ON THE FIRST TIME WE MADE LOVE, AFTER *BATTLE,* AND NOW I FIND I NO LONGER NEED THE BATTLE TO FIND THAT LEVEL OF SATISFACTION...

OH, WILSON...

...I FEEL THE SAME WAY.

EVEN THOUGH I DON'T EVEN REALLY *REMEMBER* OUR FIRST TIME.

YEARS OF *TREATMENTS* AND *TRAUMA* HAVE ROBBED ME OF SO MUCH...

...BUT I STILL HOLD ONTO THE *FEELING.*

I WISH WE *BOTH* HAD THOSE MEMORIES. IT DOESN'T FEEL *FAIR.* I WISH...

...I WISH YOU COULD REMEMBER.

MY GOD... I--I--

MARY! I--I DIDN'T MEAN TO--THE *CANE*--

NO! DON'T BE--

I REMEMBER.

WHAT A *GIFT.*

THAT...THAT *POWER.* IT'S REMARKABLE! I HAD NO *IDEA* IT COULD DO THAT!

NEITHER DID I...

HONEY...?

I need *air.*

Space.

The weight of *years* is crushing me.

The weight of that *hate* that I so desperately need to let go *of*...

REMEMBER.

...or be *consumed* by, like the *fire of a phoenix*. So I can...

MATT MURDOCK.

...be born again.

NEXT:

A MARVEL EVENT

DEVIL'S REIGN

PART 5

ON SALE
IN MARCH

THE **DEVIL'S REIGN** CONTINUES IN THESE NEXT EPIC INSTALLMENTS:

DEVIL'S REIGN
SUPERIOR FOUR #2

DEVIL'S REIGN
SPIDER-MAN #1

DEVIL'S REIGN
X-MEN #2

DEVIL'S REIGN

ZONE